

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALGIER 00365 151221Z

44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-11 ISO-00 IO-14 AEC-11 AID-20

CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02

FPC-01 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 OMB-01

PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01 SCI-06 SPC-03 SS-20 STR-08

TRSE-00 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 /220 W

----- 044865

R 151100Z FEB 74

FM USINT ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0145

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 0365

DEPT PASS CAIRO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, AG

SUBJ: OIL

1. QUADRIPARTITE ARAB SUMMIT CLOSED AFTERNOON FEBRUARY

14. IMPORTANT WORK WAS CONDUCTED SOLELY BY FOUR

CHIEFS OF STATE MEETING WITHOUT ADVISORS. A BRIEF

COMMUNIQUE REVEALED NOTHING ON DECISIONS TAKEN BY

ARAB LEADERS. FEBRUARY 15 ALGIERS PRESS HAS NO

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EDITORIAL COMMENT AND CONFINES COVERAGE TO TEXT OF

COMMUNIQUE AND A REUTERS DESPATCH REPORTING THAT

EGYPTIAN FONMIN FAHMI AND SAUDI FONMIN SAQQAF HAVE BEEN SENT ON MISSION TO WASHINGTON BY FOUR ARAB CHIEFS OF STATE.

2. PRESS DID NOT MENTION ARAB BOYCOTT BUT IT DID INCLUDE TWO FRONT PAGE ARTICLES ON WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE, BOTH OF WHICH DENOUNCED CONFERENCE IN STRONG TERMS AS U.S. ATTEMPT TO CONTROL WORLD PETROLEUM RESOURCES AND DOMINATE EUROPE.

3. ALGERIAN LEADERS' REAL CONCERN OVER WASHINGTON CONFERENCE WAS NOT MENTIONED. THIS IS THAT CONSUMER COUNTRIES WILL SUCCEED IN FORCING DOWN OIL PRICES AND REDUCE ALGERIAN INCOME, ALL OF WHICH AND MORE IS BEING RAPIDLY INVESTED IN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

4. SONATRACH VICE PRESIDENT AIT-LAOUSSINE TOLD ME EVENING FEBRUARY 14 THAT OPEC COUNTRIES WOULD NOT AGREE TO ANY SAUDI ATTEMPT TO CUT PRICES. IF SAUDIS INSISTED ON REDUCING THEIR OWN PRICES THEY WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE OPEC. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT SAUDIS COULD PREVENT FURTHER RISE IN OPEC PRICES. HOWEVER, IF SAUDIS TRIED TO REDUCE PRICES BY INCREASING PRODUCTION (HE SAID RATHER UNCONVINCINGLY) OTHER ARAB STATES WOULD REDUCE THEIR PRODUCTION PROPORTIONATELY SO AS TO KEEP PRICES FROM FALLING.
EAGLETON

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED CAIRO.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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Type: TE
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